

08 NOV. 2004

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

ALBIHNS A/S
H.C. Andersens Boulevard 49
DK-1553 Copenhagen V
DANEMARKNOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 08.11.2004Applicant's or agent's file reference
P10720 PC/P10358

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/DK 03/00932International filing date (day/month/year)
22.12.2003Priority date (day/month/year)
20.12.2002Applicant
LIFECYCLE PHARMA A/S ET AL

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

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preliminary examining authority:European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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PCT


INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P10720 PC/P10358	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DK 03/00932	International filing date (day/month/year) 22.12.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 20.12.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B05B7/04		
Applicant LIFECYCLE PHARMA AS ET AL		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
- These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 01.07.2004	Date of completion of this report 08.11.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Barré, V Telephone No. +31 70 340-2987



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/DK 03/00932**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-41 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-29 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/17-17/17 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

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EXAMINATION REPORT**

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5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-29
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-29
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-29
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DE 27 46 489 A (JUNGINGER HANS DR) 19 April 1979 (1979-04-19)

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A spray nozzle comprising a central tube (1) with a central passage for supply of a liquid, the passage terminating in an orifice for discharge of the liquid, a second tube (2) surrounding the central tube (1) whereby a first passage is defined between the central tube (1) and the second tube (2) for supply of primary air, a third tube (3) surrounding the second tube (2) whereby a second passage is defined between the second and the third tube (3) for supply of secondary air, a jacket (3) positioned at the end of the third tube (3) and defining the outer periphery of a second discharge gap of the second passage, and a thread (7) allowing an adjustable position of the central tube (1) with respect to the second tube (2).

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known spray nozzle in that it also features:

- a nozzle cone positioned at the end of the second tube (2) and defining the outer periphery of a first discharge gap of the first passage, causing air supplied through the first passage to be mixed with the liquid to provide a liquid/air spray and in that,
- the nozzle cone is adjustably positioned at the end of the second tube (2) for adjustment of the size of the first discharge gap

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as providing for optimum spray formation (see description of the present application page 6, line 4-9).

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

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EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/DK 03/00932

- The nozzle cone directs the atomisation fluid toward the fluid exiting from the central tube
 - the adjustable nozzle cone allows for a variable first gap, thus a variable atomisation air flow and impinging angle.
- Both reasons contribute to a more efficient atomisation.

Therefore the subject matter of claim 1 meets the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

Claims 2-12 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

Claims 13-29 contain all the features of claim 1 and disclose possible uses of the nozzle according to claim 1. Claims 13-29 also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.